

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent application of:

Hans-Peter Call) Examiner: Harry J. Guttman, Ph.D.
Serial No.: 09/446,373)
Filed June 19, 1998) Group Art Unit: 1651
For: OXIDATION AND BLEACHING)
SYSTEM WITH ENZYMATICALLY)
PRODUCED OXIDIZING AGENTS)

Übach-Palenberg, Germany, February 24, 2002

#17/3
M.90
3/21/02

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION DATED AUGUST 28, 2001

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated August 28, 2001.

RESPONSE: STATUS OF THE APPLICATION

It has additionally to be pointed out that there is a mistake in the assigning of the different claims to the corresponding groups:

- Group I: claims 50- 87 and 100 (pulp delignification/ bleaching)
- Group II: claims 80, 89 and 100 (waste water treatment)
- Group III: claims 80, 89 and 100 (wood composites)
- Group IV: claims 80, 90-93 and 100 (deinking of waste water)
- Group V: claims 80, 94, 95 and 100 (oxidation reactions in chemical synthesis)
- Group VI: claims 80, 96 and 100 (liquefaction of coal)
- Group VII: claims 80, 97, 98 and 100 (detergent)
- Group VIII: claims 80, 99 and 100 (textile bleaching) → this group is missing

It is true that claim 80 and 100 are duplicates. Claim 100 can therefore be cancelled.

RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In continuation of the response to restriction requirements of the Office Action dated December 15, 2000 (you find attached: Appendix I) from June 13, 2001, nevertheless I would like to repeat and extend my argumentations as follows:

The general inventive concept is the generation of active oxygen species e.g. dioxiranes. This generation takes place by the reaction of a lipase, fatty acids and peroxide → formation of perfatty acids and in the presence of an appropriate ketone the formation of the mentioned dioxiranes.